

Carl S. English, Jr.

In 1931, Carl S. English, Jr. began his career designing, planting, and maintaining the garden surrounding the Chittenden Locks as a gardener for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. When he retired in 1974, he was one of the Northwest's leading horticulturists. He left behind a world-renowned botanical garden and a long list of other contributions. Carl was especially fond of oaks and spent hours researching this genus. He is also credited with the discovery and naming of three rare plants--*Talinum okanoganense* (fameflower), *Lewisia rupicola* (bitter root), and *Claytonia nivalis* (spring beauty). Carl also helped to develop the waterside plantings along the Fremont and Montlake Cuts.

Recycling the Soil

During construction of the locks, the surrounding land was first scraped bare of vegetation and topsoil, then covered with material dredged from the work site. This material became the base for much of the garden. But the material by itself was not enough to create this splendid landscape. English's diverse plant collection required many different soil types, so he experimented with soil amendments to create the ideal environment for each plant. This garden represents a blending of art and nature, the result of a lifetime's work by a gifted gardener and botanist.

You can help preserve this unique garden for future

generations by taking only photos and memories, and using the tree branches for your imagination, not for climbing. Thank you.

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